

09/727757

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image reading apparatus includes a reading  
part reading original, a time measuring part being able  
to measure different times selectively, and a defining  
5 part determining separation of sheets of the original  
read by the reading part. The time measuring part  
selects a time to be measured according to a  
predetermined condition, and the defining part  
determines the separation of sheets of the original when  
10 the selected time has elapsed without an operation  
concerning a subsequent reading operation being  
performed after a reading operation of the reading part  
is stopped.